

**ACPL ITEM  
DISCARDED**

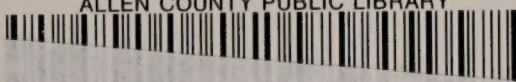




r425  
H239i  
1410375

BASEMENT STORAGE  
REFERENCE

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



**ACPL ITEM  
DISCARDED**

STO



AUG 22 '67

3-25-68

AUG 22 67





ENGLISH LINGUISTICS  
1500—1800

(A Collection of Facsimile Reprints)

*Selected and Edited by*  
R. C. ALSTON

No. 3

THE SCOLAR PRESS LIMITED  
MENSTON, ENGLAND  
1967

RALPH HARRISON

INSTITUTES OF  
ENGLISH GRAMMAR

1777



A Scholar Press Facsimile

THE SCOLAR PRESS LIMITED  
MENSTON, ENGLAND

1967



THE SCOLAR PRESS LIMITED  
20 Main Street, Menston, Yorkshire, England

FOR THE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

Printed in Great Britain for  
The Scholar Press Limited  
by A. R. Clark & Company  
Menston, Yorkshire, England



1410375

NOTE

Reproduced (original size) by permission of the Trustees of the British Museum. Shelf-Mark: 12984.aa. 65.

Ralph Harrison (1748-1810) was a minister at Cross Street, Manchester, when this work was published. Later (1786) he taught classics and belles lettres at Manchester Academy. His grammar quickly became popular, and was printed at Philadelphia in 1787, under the title *Rudiments of English Grammar*. Other American editions appeared at Wilmington (1788?), Philadelphia, (1792, 1795, 1798 *bis*, 1800, 1801, 1802, 1804, 1809, 1812), Whitehall (1801), Petersburg (1801), and Baltimore (1806). English editions appeared at London in 1784, 1788, 1790, 1792, 1794, 1801, and 1805. Copies of all editions are rare, this first edition surviving in only three copies. For a contemporary review see *Monthly Review*, LXIV, 1781, 473-74.

*References:* Alston, I, 331.





INSTITUTES  
OF  
ENGLISH GRAMMAR;

COMPRIZING,

I. The different Kinds, Relations, and  
Changes of Words.

II. Syntax, or the right Construction of  
Sentences.

WITH

EXERCISES of *true* and *false* CON-  
STRUCTION.

Adapted to the USE of SCHOOLS.



By R. HARRISON.



MANCHESTER:

Printed by CHARLES WHEELER, 1777.





---

# T H E P R E F A C E.

*T*HE design of this little tract is to comprize the rudiments of English Grammar, in a plain, concise, and regular form, suited to the scholastic method of instruction. For this purpose, I have judged it of importance to avoid hard technical words, and long sentences, as unfit for the capacities of children. The minuter observations are thrown into the form of notes; and the inflections of Nouns, Verbs, &c. instead of being previously described by words, are chiefly delineated in their examples. I have endeavoured to render the definitions philosophical, as well as plain, and to conform strictly to the simplicity of the English Language, retaining however, for obvious reasons, as many of the common terms of grammar, as were admissible into my Plan.

*The catechetical form of instruction, though accompanied with some advantages, is usually attended with this inconvenience, that the young scholar commits the answers to memory, without being at the trouble of understanding the questions, whereby the sense is left imperfect. I would rather recommend this method to be used at the discretion of the master, by way of examination, when it may be useful to depart from the written form. Trifling as these arrangements may appear, they are nevertheless to be considered of importance, if they produce any practical advantage to children, and their instructors.*

*Little originality is to be expected in a work of this nature. In what relates to Pronouns, however, I have chosen to depart from the common plan, having noticed under this class, those only that have the nature of Substantives. The usual distribution of them into possessive, relative, demonstrative, and distributive, seems unnecessary at least, if not without foundation. My, thy, our, and the like, are with more propriety termed Adjectives derived from Pronouns. The words this, that, each, the same, &c. are rather to be called Adjectives, whose Substantives are frequently understood. They are no more entitled to the appellation of Pronouns, than the good, the wise, Adjectives of Number, and  
many*



## P R E F A C E.

v

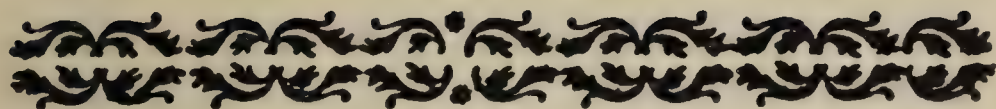
many others which it would be thought absurd to rank under this class.

If an apology be required for adding to the numerous publications on this subject, it is the following—That our best Grammarians have confessedly written to persons of maturity and reflection, without any view to the early part of education—That others have engaged in the present plan with very considerable merit, but often with some material defect, which the judicious schoolmaster would wish to have supplied. Faults of this nature are a general want of accuracy, an inattention to the simplicity of our own language, and particularly an imperfect Syntax; as also the adopting too many of the terms and divisions of the Latin grammar. These the author of the following treatise hath endeavoured to avoid, and to unite perspicuity of expression with a comprehensive brevity: How far he hath succeeded in the attempt, it is not for him to determine.

INSTITUTES







# INSTITUTES OF

ENGLISH GRAMMAR, &c.



## PART I.

Of the different Kinds and Changes of  
WORDS.

**W**ORDS may be conveniently arranged under the following Classes; NOUN, PRONOUN, ADJECTIVE, VERB, PARTICIPLE, ARTICLE, ADVERB, CONJUNCTION, PREPOSITION, and INTERJECTION.

### OF NOUNS.

**A** NOUN OR SUBSTANTIVE, is the name of whatever we distinctly perceive, understand,

## 2 INSTITUTES OF

stand, or discourse of;† as a *man*, a *tree*, *goodness*, *truth*.

Nouns may be divided into COMMON and PROPER.

A Noun *common* belongs to a whole kind; as, a *man*, a *city*, a *river*.

A Noun *proper* is the name of an individual of a kind, as, *Julius Cæsar*, *London*, the *Danube*.

The terminations or endings of Nouns are changed on account of NUMBER, CASE, and GENDER.

### OF NUMBER.

THERE are two NUMBERS, the SINGULAR, and the PLURAL.‡

The

† DIRECTION. If therefore we prefix the words, “I speak of”—whatever word compleats the sense is a Noun; as I speak of—*virtue*, *wisdom*, *gold*. The young scholar may be usefully exercised in thus reciting a number of substantives.

‡ Some words want the singular number; as *ashes*, *lungs*, &c. Some have no plural; as, the names of VIRTUES and VICES, *justice*, *temperance*, &c. of METALS; as, *brass*, *gold*, &c. and all PROPER NAMES. In others the singular and plural terminations are alike; as, *sheep*, *deer*. Some words taken from foreign languages, retain their original plurals; as *cherub*, *cherubim*; *seraph*, *seraphim*; *erratum*, *errata*; *phenomenon*, *phenomena*; *radius*, *radii*; *beau*, *beaux*, &c.



## ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 3

The *singular* Number speaketh but of one; as, a *song*.

The *plural* number expresseth more than one; as *songs*.

The plural number is generally formed, by adding *s*, or *es*,† to the singular; as *river*, *rivers*; *fish*, *fishes*.‡

But many plurals are formed irregularly; as, *man*, *men*; *foot*, *feet*.||

If the singular end in *y*, preceded by a consonant, the plural shall end in *ies*; as, *beauty*, *beauties*.

### OF CASE.

THERE are two CASES, the NOMINATIVE, and the POSSESSIVE.

The *Nominative* case is the name itself; as, *George*.

The *Possessive* denotes Property, or Possession; as, *George's book*.

B

Of

† *Es* is added, where *s* could not otherwise be sounded, viz. after *cb*, *s*, *sh*, *x*, and *z*; as, *torch*, *torches*; *ax*, *axes*.

‡ Many words ending in *f*, make their plural in *ves*; as, *calf*, *calves*; *knife*, *knives*; but others follow the general rule; as, *grief*, *griefs*; *cliff*, *cliffs*.

|| To which may be added, *woman*, *women*; *child*, *children*; *brother*, *brethren*; *ox*, *oxen*; as also, *die*, *dice*; *louse*, *lice*; *mouse*, *mice*; *goose*, *geese*; *sow*, *swine*; *penny*, *pence*; *tooth*, *teeth*.

## 4 INSTITUTES OF

The Possessive is formed by adding *s*, with an apostrophe before it, to the Nominative.†

But to a Plural ending in *s*, or a Singular in *ss*, the apostrophe only is added; as, *the soldiers' valour*; for *righteousness' sake*.

*Note.* The possessive Plural is seldom used.

## OF G E N D E R.

**N**OUNS have properly two GENDERS; the MASCULINE, to denote the male kind; and the FEMININE, to denote the female.‡

When there is no distinction of sex, a Noun is said to be of the NEUTER Gender.

The feminine Gender is sometimes expressed by

† When several names are coupled together in the Possessive Case, the apostrophe with *s* may be joined to the last of them, and understood to the rest; as, *John, James, and Robert's Horse*.

If the term denoting property or possession consist of several words, the apostrophe is usually subjoined to the last of them; as, *the king of Great-Britain's army*.

‡ When personified, the following words are considered as Masculine; *sun, time, death, sleep, love, the seasons*.

*Virtue, vice, with their species; the earth, the moon, the church, religion, nature, fortune, ship, vessel, gun, the names of countries and cities* are feminine.



## ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 5

by adding *ess* to the Masculine; as, *lion*. *lioness*; but generally without regard to rule.†

### Inflection of a regular Noun.

<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	<i>River,</i>	<i>Plur.</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	<i>Rivers,</i>
	<i>Poss.</i>	<i>River's.</i>		<i>Poss.</i>	<i>Rivers'.</i>

### Inflection of an irregular Noun.

<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	<i>Child,</i>	<i>Plur.</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	<i>Children,</i>
	<i>Poss.</i>	<i>Child's.</i>		<i>Poss.</i>	<i>Children's.</i>

† Many Masculines in *tor* make their Feminines in *trix*; as *executor*, *executrix*: *Hero* makes *beroine*.



## CHAP. II.

### OF PRONOUNS.

A PRONOUN is a word used instead of a Noun; as, *I*, for my name; *he*, for his name.

Pronouns, like unto Nouns, are inflected with NUMBER and CASE.

Some Pronouns have a Case peculiar to themselves, which is called the *objective*, and follows Verbs and Prepositions.

#### Inflection of Pronouns.

<i>Sing.</i> Nom. <i>I</i> , Poss. <i>Mine</i> , Objec. <i>Me</i> .	<i>Plur.</i> Nom. <i>We</i> , Poss. <i>Ours</i> , Objec. <i>Us</i> .
<i>Sing.</i> Nom. <i>Thou</i> , Poss. <i>Thine</i> , Objec. <i>Thee</i> .	<i>Plur.</i> Nom. <i>You, or ye</i> , Poss. <i>Yours</i> , Objec. <i>You</i> .
<i>Sing.</i> Nom. <i>He</i> , Poss. <i>His</i> , Objec. <i>Him</i> .	<i>Plur.</i> Nom. <i>They</i> , Poss. <i>Theirs</i> , Objec. <i>Them</i> .
	<i>Sing.</i>

† Some will have *mine* and *thine* to be Adjectives.



# ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 7

<i>Sing.</i> Nom. <i>She,</i>	<i>Plur.</i> Nom. <i>They,</i>
Poss. <i>Hers,</i>	Poss. <i>Theirs,</i>
Objec. <i>Her.</i>	Objec. <i>Them.</i>

<i>Sing.</i> Nom. <i>It,</i>	<i>Plur.</i> Nom. <i>They,</i>
Poss. <i>Its,</i>	Poss. <i>——</i>
Objec. <i>Her.</i>	Objec. <i>Them.</i>

<i>Sing.</i> Nom. <i>One,</i>	<i>Plur.</i> Nom. <i>Ones,</i>
Poss. <i>One's,</i>	Poss. <i>——</i>
Objec. <i>One.</i>	Objec. <i>Ones.</i>

<i>Sing.</i> Nom. <i>Other,</i>	<i>Plur.</i> Nom. <i>Others,</i>
Poss. <i>Other's,</i>	Poss. <i>Others',</i>
Objec. <i>Other.</i>	Objec. <i>Others.</i>

† *Who* is termed a *Relative*, because it relates to a preceding Noun or Pronoun, and if a question be asked, it is called an *Interrogative*.

<i>Sing.</i> and	Nom. <i>Who,</i>
<i>Plur.</i>	Poss. <i>Whose,</i>
	Objec. <i>Whom.</i>

In

† The **RELATIVE** seems to unite in its nature, the *Pronoun*, and the *Conjunction*.

*Note.* The words *myself*, *thyself*, &c. which are sometimes stiled Pronouns, are rather the pronominal Adjectives *my*, *thy*, &c. joined to the Substantive *self*. *Ourself* is only used in the royal proclamations. *Himself* and *themselves* seem to be corruptly put for *his self*, *their selves*.

## 8 INSTITUTES OF

In like manner is declined its compound  
*whosoever.*

*Sing. and*  
*Plur.*

Nom. *Whosoever,*  
Poss. *Whosoever,*  
Objec. *Whomsoever.*

CHAP.





## CHAP. III.

### OF ADJECTIVES.

**A**N ADJECTIVE expresseth some quality or property of a Noun, to which it requires to be united; as, *great, wise, good*.

Adjectives change their termination only on account of COMPARISON.

Except *this* plural *these*; and *that* pl. *those*.

There are three Degrees of comparison; the POSITIVE, the COMPARATIVE, and the SUPERLATIVE.

The

**DIRECTION.** An Adjective will admit the word *thing* after it; as, *a good thing*. Most Adjectives also may be compared; as, *fair, fairer, fairest*.

It will greatly assist the young scholar, if he be required to find Adjectives to a given Substantive; as for example, to the word GOLD; *yellow gold, precious gold, fine gold*. On the other hand, he may find Substantives to a given Adjective; as for example, to the word HIGH; *high tree, high mountain, high tower, &c.* Afterwards let him compare the Adjectives, and inflect the Substantives, by which he will learn to distinguish their grammatical properties.

## 10 INSTITUTES OF

The *Positive* expresseth the simple quality; as, *hard*.

The *Comparative* somewhat increaseth the signification of the Positive; as *harder*.

The *Superlative* expresseth the quality in the highest degree; as, *hardest*.

Example of the comparison of Adjectives.

<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Comparative.</i>	<i>Superlative.</i>
Hard	harder†	hardest†
Wise	wiser	wisest

The following Adjectives are compared irregularly, viz.

<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Comp.</i>	<i>Superl.</i>
Good,	better,	best.
Bad,	worse,‡	worst.
Little,	less,‡	least.
Much,	more,	most.
Near,	nearer,	nearest and next.
Late,	later,	latest and last.

Adjectives whose signification cannot be increased, do not admit of comparison; as, *all*, *every*, &c.

Many

† For the sake of continuing the accent, it sometimes becomes necessary to double the final Consonant; as, *fit*, *fitter*, *fittest*.

‡ *Worser* and *lesser* seem ungrammatical.



Many Adjectives, and especially those that consist of several Syllables, are compared by the help of Particles; as, *extraordinary, more extraordinary, most extraordinary.*

Some Adjectives are derived from Pronouns; as, *my, thy, our, your, &c.* others frequently have their Substantives understood; as, *each, either, &c.* also *which, what, whether, that* and *the same*, are called RELATIVES.

When *which, what, and whether* are used to ask questions, they are called INTERROGATIVES.



## CHAP. IV.

### OF VERBS and PARTICIPLES.

**A** VERB *affirmeth* somewhat of a Noun ; and betokeneth *to do, to be, or to be in some state* ; as, the bird *flies* ; John *is* diligent ; Peter *sleeps*.

The Noun concerning which it affirms, is called the **SUBJECT**† of the Verb.

There are two kinds of Verbs, **TRANSITIVE**, and **INTRANSITIVE**.

A Verb is called *Transitive*, when its meaning passes from the subject to an **OBJECT**,‡ or following Noun ; as Hannibal *defeated* the Romans.

#### A Verb

**DIRECTION.** Whatever word makes a complete sentence with a Noun, is a Verb. It may also be distinguished by admitting the personal Pronouns before it : as, *I love, thou lovest, &c.* It is called a **VERB** or **WORD**, as being the chief word in every sentence.

† The subject of the Verb is the word that answereth to the question *Who* or *What* before the Verb ; as, *The bird flies. What flies ?* Ans. *The bird.*

‡ The object answers to the question *Whom* or *What* after the Verb ; as, *Hannibal defeated whom ?* Ans. *The Romans.*

## ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 13

A Verb is called *intransitive*, or *neuter*, when its meaning doth not require an object or following Noun; as, *they laugh*; *we rejoice*.

A Verb is inflected with NUMBER, PERSON, TIME, and MODE.

### Of NUMBER and PERSON.

THERE are two NUMBERS, the *Singular*, and the *Plural*; and THREE PERSONS in each Number.

A Verb is of the *first person*, when preceded by *I* or *We*; of the *second person*, when preceded by *thou* or *ye*; when any other Noun or Pronoun becomes the subject of the Verb, it is of the *third person*.

So also with respect to Verbs, *I* and *we* are of the *first person*; *thou* and *ye* of the *second*; and every other Noun and Pronoun, of the *third person*.

EXCEPTION. When a Substantive is spoken to, it becomes of the second person.

### Of TENSES or TIMES.

THERE are two TENSES or TIMES; the *present*, and the *preterite* or *past*.



# 14 INSTITUTES OF

## OF MODES.

**A** VERB hath four Modes; the *indicative*, the *imperative*, the *subjunctive*, and the *infinitive*.

The *indicative Mode* declareth somewhat; as, *thou lovest*; or asketh a question; as, *lovest thou?*

The *imperative* biddeth or commandeth; as, *love thou*.

The *subjunctive* is used to express doubt, or uncertainty† after the words *although*, *if*, *whomsoever*, *unless*,‡ &c. as, *unless he love*.

The *infinitive Mode*, being the Verb itself, without reference to Number or Person, hath commonly the sign *to* before it, and in signification is like unto a Noun; as, *boys love to play*; i. e. *boys love play*.

## OF PARTICIPLES.

**A** PARTICIPLE is an Adjective, derived from a Verb, and retaining its signification.

A Verb hath two PARTICIPLES; one of the *present*, and another of the *preterite Tense*.

Inflection

† For if no uncertainty be implied after the words *although*, *if*, &c. the Verb retains the *indicative Mode*.

‡ To which may be added, *whether*, *except*, *whatsoever*, *before*, *provided*, *e'er*, and words of *wishing*.

# ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 15

## Inflection of regular Verbs.

TO LEARN.

TO IMPROVE.

### INDICATIVE MODE.

#### Present Tense.

Sing.

Plural.

*I learn,*  
*Thou learnest,†*  
*He learneth,‡ or learns.||*

*We learn,*  
*Ye learn,*

*They learn.*

*I improve,*  
*Thou improvest,*  
*He improveth,‡ or*  
*improves.||*

*We improve,*  
*Ye improve,*  
*They improve.*

#### Preterite Tense.

*I learned,*  
*Thou learnedst,*  
*He learned.*

*We learned,*  
*Ye learned,*  
*They learned.*

*I improved,*  
*Thou improvedst,§*  
*He improved.*

*We improved,*  
*Ye improved,*  
*They improved.*

#### IMPE-

† It sometimes becomes necessary to double the final Consonant, when preceded by a short Vowel, in order to continue the accent; as, *I forget, thou forgettest.*

‡ This termination is used in solemn language.

|| This termination is used in familiar language.

§ This termination of the second person preterite, on account of its harshness, is seldom used in many of the irregular Verbs.

16 INSTITUTES OF  
IMPERATIVE MODE.

Sing.	Plural.
<i>Learn, or learn thou.</i>	<i>Learn, or learn ye,</i>
<i>Improve, or improve thou.</i>	<i>Improve, or improve ye.</i>

SUBJUNCTIVE MODE.

Present Tense.

<i>If I learn,</i>	<i>If we learn,</i>
<i>If thou learn,</i>	<i>If ye learn,</i>
<i>If he learn.</i>	<i>If they learn.</i>
<i>If I improve,</i>	<i>If we improve,</i>
<i>If thou improve,</i>	<i>If ye improve,</i>
<i>If he improve.</i>	<i>If they improve.</i>

Preterite Tense.

<i>If I learned,</i>	<i>If we learned,</i>
<i>If thou learned,</i>	<i>If ye learned,</i>
<i>If he learned.</i>	<i>If they learned.</i>
<i>If I improved,</i>	<i>If we improved,</i>
<i>If thou improved,</i>	<i>If ye improved,</i>
<i>If he improved.</i>	<i>If they improved.</i>

INFINITIVE MODE.

<i>To learn,</i>	<i>To improve.</i>
------------------	--------------------

PARTICIPLES.

Present, <i>Learning.</i>	Preterite, <i>Learned.</i>
Present, <i>Improving.</i>	Preterite, <i>Improved.</i>

*Note.*



# ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 17

*Note.* Many Verbs form both the preterite Tense, and the Participle preterite irregularly; as, *I rise*; pret. *I rose*. Participle pret. *I am risen*. See the Appendix.

Other circumstances in the time and manner of Verbs, are expressed by the help of certain Verbs called AUXILIARIES.

The principal auxiliary Verbs are as follows.†

To do.‡

## INDICATIVE MODE.

### Present Tense.

Singular.

Plural.

*I do,*

*We do,*

*Thou dost or doſt,*

*Ye do,*

*He doth or does.¶*

*They do.*

Preterite

† *Note.* The Verb TO HAVE is joined to the *Participle preterite*. The Verb TO BE is joined to *both Participles*. The other Auxiliaries are joined to the *original form* of the Verb.

The Verbs *to do*, *to have*, *to will*, and *to be*, are not always Auxiliaries, but sometimes principal Verbs.

Sometimes two or more Auxiliaries are joined together before a Participle, and then the first usually expresses the manner, and the latter the time. The first only admits of variation; as, *I might have loved*, *thou mightest have loved*.

‡ *Do* expresses the meaning with greater energy; as, “*Indeed I do speak truth.*”

¶ *Doth* is used in solemn, *does* in familiar language.

# 18 INSTITUTES OF

## Preterite Tense.

Sing.	Plural.
<i>I did,</i>	<i>We did,</i>
<i>Thou didst,</i>	<i>Ye did,</i>
<i>He did.</i>	<i>They did.</i>

IMPER. SUBJUNC. INFINITIVE, &c.

PARTICIPLES. Pres. *doing*; preter. *done*.

TO HAVE.†

## INDICATIVE MODE.

### Present Tense.

<i>I have,</i>	<i>We have,</i>
<i>Thou hast,</i>	<i>Ye have,</i>
<i>He hath‡ or has.</i>	<i>They have.</i>

### Preterite Tense.

<i>I had,</i>	<i>We had,</i>
<i>Thou hadst,</i>	<i>Ye had,</i>
<i>He had.</i>	<i>They had.!!</i>

### PARTICIP.

† The Auxiliary *have* relates to time now past. Its preterite *had* signifies time past at a former period.

‡ *Hath* is used in solemn, *has* in familiar language.

[ By way of exercise may be added the Subjunctive, *If I have, if thou have, &c.*

# ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 19

## PARTICIPLES.

Present, *having*.      Preterite, *had*.

To **BE.**†

## INDICATIVE MODE.

### Present Tense.

Sing.

*I am,  
Thou art,  
He is.*

Plural.

*We are,  
Ye are,  
They are.*

### Preterite Tense.

*I was,  
Thou wast,  
He was.*

*We were,  
Ye were,  
They were.*

## IMPERATIVE MODE.

*Be or be thou,*

*Be or be ye.*

## SUBJUNCTIVE MODE.

*If I be,  
If thou be,  
If he be.*

*If we be,  
If ye be,  
If they be.*

**D**

Preterite

† The Auxiliary *to be* contains a simple affirmation. When joined to the *Participle present*, it asserts with greater exactness and force: When joined to the *Participle preterite*, it implies the suffering or receiving of what is expressed; as, *I am writing. Thou art beaten.*



## INSTITUTES OF

## Preterite Tense.

Sing.	Plural.
<i>If I were,</i>	<i>If we were,</i>
<i>If thou wert,</i>	<i>If ye were,</i>
<i>If he were.</i>	<i>If they were.</i>

## Participles.

Present, *being*.      Preterite, *been*.

The Verbs *shall*, *will*, *may*, *can*, have two forms, the one ABSOLUTE, the other CONDITIONAL.

## SHALL.

## Absolute Form.

<i>I shall,</i>	<i>We shall,</i>
<i>Thou shalt,</i>	<i>Ye shall,</i>
<i>He shall.</i>	<i>They shall.†</i>

## Conditional Form.

<i>I should,</i>	<i>We should,</i>
<i>Thou shouldst,</i>	<i>Ye should,</i>
<i>He should.</i>	<i>They should.</i>

In like manner is declined *will*‡, conditional *would*.

## MAY.

† *Shall* in the first person simply *foretells*; in the second and third persons, it *promises*, *commands*, *threatens* or *engages*.

‡ *Will* in the first person *promises*, *threatens* or *engages*; in the second and third persons it only *foretells*.

**MAY.†**

**Absolute Form.**

**Sing.**

**Plural.**

*I may,  
Thou mayest,  
He may.*

*We may,  
Ye may,  
They may.*

**Conditional Form.**

*I might,  
Thou mightest,  
He might.*

*We might,  
Ye might.  
They might.*

**CAN.‡**

**Absolute Form.**

*I can,  
Thou canst,  
He can.*

*We can,  
Ye can,  
They can.*

**Conditional Form.**

*I could,  
Thou couldst,  
He could.*

*We could,  
Ye could,  
They could.*

The Verb **MUST**|| is undeclined.

**D. 2**

**CHAP.**

† *May* signifies *right, liberty, or possibility.*  
‡ *Can* signifies the *power of doing any thing.*  
§ *Must* implies *necessity.*



## CHAP. V.

OF ARTICLES, ADVERBS, CONJUNCTIONS, PREPOSITIONS, and INTERJECTIONS.

### OF ARTICLES.

**A**RTICLES are the words *a* and *the*, used before Nouns.

*A* relates to one of a kind, but not one in particular; as, Have you seen *a* ship?

Hence it is called the *indefinite* Article.

*The* signifies that a particular person or thing is referred to; as, Did you see *the* Ship?

Hence it is called the *definite* Article.

*Note.* *A* becomes *an* when followed by a Vowel, or *h* not sounded.



### OF ADVERBS.

**A**DVERBS are contractions of Sentences, or parts of a Sentence, generally serving

*Note.* Adverbs are commonly distributed into many kinds, which it would be tedious to enumerate. The principal



ving to denote some circumstance or manner of an action.

They are frequently added to Verbs and Adjectives ; as, he *reads well*; he is *very diligent*.

Many Adverbs end in *ly*; as, *wisely, happily*.

Some Adverbs are compared ; as, *often, oftener, ofteneſt*.



## OF CONJUNCTIONS.

A CONJUNCTION joineth Sentences together ; as, Peter, John, *and*† James run.

Of

principal divisions are those of *time*; as, *now, often, sometimes, to-day, then, ever, never, &c.* Of *place*; as, *where, here, hence, thence, thither, &c.* Of *number*; as, *once, twice, thrice, &c.* Of *affirming and denying*; as, *yes, no, truly, not, &c.* and of *quality*, which are very numerous, and usually end in *ly*; as, *mercifully, justly*.

† Which may be resolved into three sentences, viz. *Peter runs. John runs. James runs.*

*Note.* The principal Conjunctions are, *and, albeit, also, although, because, both, but, either, except, for, if, indeed, neither, nevertheless, nor, notwithstanding, or, seeing, since, so, that, therefore, though, wherefore, whether.*

## 24 INSTITUTES OF

Of Conjunctions some are *copulative*, and some are *disjunctive*.

A Conjunction *copulative* continues the same sense; as, *and*, *also*.

A *disjunctive* expresses an opposition of meaning; as, *but*, *although*, *unless*.



### OF PREPOSITIONS.

A PREPOSITION is used to shew the relation of words to each other; as, He went *from* Manchester, *through* Derby, *to* London.



### OF INTERJECTIONS.

AN INTERJECTION is a word expressing a sudden emotion of the mind; as, *alas!*  
*O!* *phy!*

### INSTI-

*Note.* Most Prepositions are contained in the following lines.

“ Between, besides, above, beneath, about,

“ Behind, beyond, amongst, within, without,

“ After, towards, against, nigh, at, upon,

“ Before, until, with, into, from, of, on.”

The word *a* seems to be a Preposition; perhaps a contraction of *on* in such phrases as, *I went a fishing*.

Prepositions are often prefixed to Verbs in composition;  
tion;



# I N S T I T U T E S

O F

ENGLISH GRAMMAR, &c.



## P A R T II.

Of SYNTAX, or the right Construction of  
SENTENCES.

**S**YNTAX may be considered with respect  
to CONCORD, GOVERNMENT, and POSI-  
TION.

*Concord*

tion; as, *to overtake*. There are also certain Particles of this nature, which are combined with Verbs, but have no separate existence in our language; as, *be, mis*, &c. in the words *besal, misapply*, &c. Prepositions are frequently subjoined to Verbs; in which case they assume the nature of the Adverb, and considerably affect the meaning of the Verb; as, *to give over, to make out*.



*Concord* is, when words are required to be in like Number, Case, Gender, or Person.

*Government* is, when one word causes another to be in some Case or Form.

*Position* is the proper arrangement of words.

## RULES of CONCORD.

I. **T**HE Verb agrees with its subject in Number and Person.

EXAMPLE.† *I learn. Thou improvest. He reads. We perceive. Ye understand. They write. The rose withers. Thou laughedst. Peter wept. Ye did play. He hath been diligent. Thou shalt not steal. I have promised. The master hath forbidden. They are gone. If he perform his promise. Thou shouldest have been diligent.*

II. Two or more subjects of the singular Number, with a copulative Conjunction between them, require a Verb plural.

*England and Scotland are separated by the Tweed.*

† Examples of this nature may at first view appear trifling and unnecessary; but perhaps experience will show them to be of use. In the Latin language it is common to exemplify particular rules, before we proceed to resolve long and complicated sentences. And I am persuaded the same method will be equally advantageous to the *English* scholar. Exercises of *false construction* will be attended with singular benefit; a short specimen of which is inserted in the Appendix.

## ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 27

*Tweed. Pope, Addison, and Swift were cotemporary. Knowledge and virtue are preferable to riches.*

III. A Noun of multitude may be joined either to the singular or plural Number of the Verb.

*The people rejoiceth. The People rejoice. The Parliament are assembled. Part of the army are disbanded.*

IV. Sometimes an infinitive Mode, sometimes a clause of a Sentence becomes the subject of a Verb.

*To err is human; to forgive, divine. To mourn without measure is folly; not to mourn at all, insensibility.*

V. The Adjectives *this* and *that* agree with their Substantives in number.

*This man. These men. That boy. Those boys. These books are entertaining. Those maps are well executed.*

VI. The Relative is of the same number and person as its antecedent,† and the Verb agrees with it accordingly.

*Thou who hatest reproof. He who is diligent. They who are diligent. I who am content. The horse, which runs. The fishes, which swim.*

### E

### RULES

† The Antecedent of a Relative, is the preceding Noun or Pronoun to which it relates.

## RULES of GOVERNMENT.

VII. The Pronoun coming before the Verb, must be in the Nominative Case.

*I walk. Thou sees. We love. She reads. They hear.*

VIII The Pronoun following the Verb, must be in the Objective Case.

*I praise him. Thou lovest me. The master blamed them. He admonished us. We have found you.*

IX. Except the Verb *to be*, which is followed by the Nominative Case of the Pronoun.†

*This is he. Who art thou? Is it I? We are they.*

X. If there come no subject expressed or understood, between the Relative and the Pronoun, the Relative shall be the subject of the Verb.

*The boy, who is diligent, merits praise. They, that seek wisdom, shall find her. Those pleasures are most to be valued, which accompany us, through the whole of our existence.*

XI. If a subject expressed or understood, come between the Relative *who*, and the Verb, the Relative must be put in the Objective Case.

*The*

† The infinitive Mode of the Verb *to be*, is followed by the objective Case of the Pronoun.



*The man, whom the king delighteth to honour. Men commonly hate him, whom they fear. The boys, whom you sent, are returned.*

XII. When a question is asked by the Relative *Who*, and an answer given by the Pronoun only, the Relative and the Pronoun shall be in the same Case.

*Q. Who chuses to walk? A. I. Q. Whose book is this? A. Mine. Q. Whom did you see? A. Him.*†

XIII. The relation of property or possession, may be expressed by the Possessive Case.

*The king's forces were victorious. I admire Thomson's works. George's horse moves well. Peter's book is torn. He extolled the soldiers' valour. Teach me to feel another's woe. Pope.*

XIV. A Verb following another Verb, is put in the Infinitive Mode.

*Boys love to play. We desire to learn. I rejoiced to see my father and mother.*

XV. The Particle *to* is usually omitted after the Verbs, *bid, dare, feel, let, make, need, hear, see:*

*I bade him shut the door. He dares not tell a lie. I will make him confess. Let us hearken*

E 2

† The reason of this will be obvious, if we compare any of the foregoing sentences: For instance.  
*Q. Who chuses to walk? A. I. i. e. I chuse to walk.*  
*Q. Whom did you see? A. Him. i. e. I saw him.*

hearken to the precepts of virtue. I saw him go into the house. I heard him speak. I feel the fire burn.

XVI. The Participle present governs the Objective Case of the Pronoun.

*We were seeking him. He is instructing us. He was admonishing them.*

XVII. A Noun or Pronoun, when put absolutely with a Participle, i. e. independent on the rest of the sentence, is in the Nominative Case.

*The sun being risen, we pursued our journey. Wisdom is the noblest attainment of human nature, virtue only excepted. He having concluded his discourse, Philip replied.*

XVIII. Prepositions govern the Objective Case of the Pronoun.

*I went with him. He came to me. Peter was amongst them. They ran before us. To whom did you give the book?*

XIX. The Relative *who*, after the Conjunction *than*, must be put in the Objective Case.

*Titus, than whom no prince was more beloved, succeeded his father Vespasian. I have been*

† Sometimes an infinitive Mode, sometimes the Participle present, may be said to be put absolute; as, in the phrases *to conclude*; *though properly speaking*; and the like.

## ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 31

*been reading Cicero, than whom no writer is more eloquent.*

XX. Many Conjunctions require other corresponding Conjunctions; as,

<i>Although, though,</i>	<i>Yet, nevertheless.</i>
<i>Whether,</i>	<i>Or;</i>
<i>Neither or nor,</i>	<i>Nor ;</i>
<i>As,</i>	<i>So; implying comparison</i>
<i>As,</i>	<i>As; denoting equality</i>
<i>So,</i>	<i>As; implying comparison</i>
<i>So,</i>	<i>That; expressing a consequence.</i>

*Though the house is small, yet it is very convenient. Whether I shall come or not, is uncertain. I neither love hunting, nor shooting.*

*As one who spies a serpent in his way,  
Glist'ning, and basking in the summer ray,  
Disorder'd stops, to shun the danger near,  
Then walks with faintness on, and looks with fear;  
So seem'd the Sire—— Parnel.*

*I think Milton as great a poet, as Virgil.*

*The greyhound is not so fierce, as the mastiff;  
nor is the mastiff so swift, as the greyhound. I  
was so tired, that I fell asleep.*

XXI. The Conjunctions *and, nor, or, and than,* frequently connect like States, Cases, Modes, and Tenses.

*Peter,*



*Peter, James, and John were asleep. He is angry at me and you, and them. Honour thy father with thy whole heart, and forget not the sorrows of thy mother. It is better to receive, than to do injury.*

*At dawn poor Stella danc'd and sang. Prior.*

*I saw and kiss'd her in her shroud. Ditto.*

XXII. Auxiliary Verbs must be joined either to the original form of the Verb, or to one of its Participles, but never to the Preterite Tense.

*I do love. Thou hast loved. He is writing. We were chidden. Thou shouldst attend. He might improve. They could have known. Thou mightest have been heard.*

XXIII. *Who* relates to persons, *which* to things; *that* may refer to either.

*The man, who tells a lie, is imprudent, as well as wicked. The grass, which was cut yesterday, is now withered. The boy, that is diligent, shall be rewarded. The nuts, that you gave me, are bad.*

XXIV. When *this*, or its plural *these*, is contrasted with *that*, or its plural *those*; *this* or *these* refers to the latter, *that* or *those* to the former word, clause, or sentence.

*In the city we are entertained with the works of*

† *That* is a Relative, when it may be changed into *who* or *which*.

# ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 35

*of men, in the country with the works of God :  
This is the province of nature; that of art.*

*Chearfulness is preferable to mirth. This  
may be considered as an act; that as a habit of  
the mind.*

*What conscience dictates to be done,*

*Or warns me not to do ;*

*This teach me more than hell to shun,*

*That more than heav'n pursue. Pope.*

## RULES of POSITION.

XXV. The subject of affirmation usually precedes the Verb; as, *fire burns; the bird flies.*

XXVI. But when a question is asked, the subject either follows the Verb; as, *lovest thou?* or comes between the Auxiliary and the Verb; as, *dost thou love?*

XXVII. In like manner after the Verb imperative Mode, and the Adverbs *here, there;* as, *love thou; there was a man.†*

## XXVIII. The

† The Verb nenter is sometimes followed by its subject; as, *at the end of which hung her pipe.* The reason is plain, that as the Verb neuter does not admit an object after it, the meaning is not liable to any ambiguity.

The subject follows the Verb in such phrases; as, *charm he ever so wisely; had he performed his promise; which seem elliptical, and put for, though he charms ever so wisely; if he had performed his promise.*

## 34 INSTITUTES OF

XXVIII. The Adjective usually precedes the Noun, with which it is connected; as, *a worthy man.*†

XXIX. But if some circumstance depend upon the Adjective, it follows the Noun; as, *a man worthy to be praised.*

*A good horse. A horse good for travelling. A merciful man. A man merciful to the poor. Give me convenient food. Give me food convenient for me.*

XXX. A transitive Verb is followed by its object; as, *Alexander killed Clytus.*

XXXI. The Relatives *who, which, and that,* follow their antecedents.

*The man, whom you esteem. The horse, which runs. The bird, that flies.*

XXXII. Adverbs usually precede the Adjectives, and follow the Verbs, with which they are connected.

*Deference is the most elegant of all compliments. A wise man will desire no more, than what he may get justly, use soberly, distribute cheerfully, and live upon contentedly.*

XXXIII. But if the Verb have an Auxiliary, the Adverb may be placed between the Auxiliary and the Verb.

*Who*

† The Verb *to be*, frequently comes between the Adjective and the Noun; as, *blessed is the man; happy is he.*



## ENGLISH GRAMMAR. 35

*Who is he, that hath not offended with his tongue? You have often deceived me. The time is now come. It hath frequently happened.*

XXXIV. Prepositions usually come before the words to which they relate; as, *He went from Dover to Calais.*

XXXV. The Preposition is frequently separated from the Relative which it governs, and placed at the end of a clause or sentence.

*Whom do you live with? Whom shall I give the book to? What will you play for?*

## GENERAL DIRECTION.

In arranging the parts of a sentence, we ought principally to aim at perspicuity. In general we may observe, that words connected in sense, should be placed as near each other as possible—that circumstances should be joined to those parts of a sentence on which they are dependent—and the order of words correspond with the order of our ideas.



# The APPENDIX:

CONTAINING,

A TABLE of VERBS, irregularly inflected;

Remarks on some Grammatical FIGURES;

W I T H

EXAMPLES of true and false Construction.



A Table of VERBS irregularly inflected.

THOSE irregularities are omitted, which proceed from contracting *ed* into *t*; as, *I deal*, *I dealt*.

Where the inflection is distinguished by an asterisk, the regular form is also in use.

<i>To</i>	<i>Preterite Tense.</i>	<i>Partic. Preterite.</i>
Abide,	abode,	abode.
arise,	arose,	arisen.
awake,	awoke,*	awoke.
		Bear,

# A P P E N D I X 37

<i>To</i>	<i>Preterite Tense.</i>	<i>Partic. Preterite.</i>
Bear, <i>to</i>	bare,	born.
<i>bring forth,</i>	bore,	born.
bear, <i>to carry,</i>		
beat,	beat,	beaten.
begin,	began,	begun.
behold,	beheld,	beheld.
bereave,	bereft,*	bereft.*
beseech,	besought,	besought.
bid,	bade,	bidden.
bind,	bound,	bound.
bite,	bit,	bitten.
bleed,	bled,	bled.
blow,	blew,	blown.
break,	brake, broke,	broken.
breed,	bred,	bred.
bring,	brought,	brought.
burst,	burst,	bursten.
buy,	bought,	bought.
Cost,	cost,	cost.
catch,	caught,*	caught.*
chide,	chid,	chidden.
chuse,	chose,	chosen.
cleave,	clave, clove,	cloven, cleft.
cling,	clung,	clung.
clothe,	clad,*	clad.*
come,	came,	come.
cost,	cost,	cost.
crow,	crew,	crowed.



<i>To</i>	<i>Preterite Tense.</i>	<i>Partic. Preterite.</i>
cut,	cut,	cut.
Dare,	durst,*	dared.
die,	died,	dead.
dig,	dug*,	dug.*
draw,	drew,	drawn.
drink,	drank,	drunk.
drive,	drove,	driven.
Eat,	ate,	eaten.
Fall,	fell,	fallen.
feed,	fed,	fed.
fight,	fought,	fought.
find,	found,	found.
flee,†	fled,	fled.
fling,	flung,	flung.
fly,	flew,	flown.†
forfake,	forsook,	forsaken.
freeze,	froze,	frozen.
Get,	got, gat	gotten.
give,	gave,	given.
go,	went,	gone.
grave,	graved,	graven.*
grind,	ground,	ground.
grow,	grew,	grown.
Hang,	hung,*	hung, hanged.
		heave,

† It may be proper to distinguish this Verb, from the word *to fly*, with which it is often confounded. We *fly* from an enemy; but a bird *flies* with wings.

‡ This Participle is sometimes improperly used for *flowed*, the regular Participle of the Verb *to flow*.

# A P P E N D I X. 39

<i>To</i>	<i>Preterite Tense.</i>	<i>Partic. Preterite.</i>
heave,	hove,*	heaved.
help,	helped,	holpen.*
hew,	hewed,	hewn.
hide,	hid,	hidden.
hit,	hit,	hit.
hold,	held,	holden, held.
hurt,	hurt,	hurt.
Keep,	kept,	kept.
know,	knew,	known.
Lay,†	laid,	laid.
lead,	led,	led.
leave,	left,	left.
let,	let,	let.
lie,	lay,	lain.
load,	loaded,	loaden, laden.
lose,	lost,	lost.
Make,	made,	made.
meet,	met,	met.
melt,	melted,	molten.*
mow,	mowed,	mown.
Pay,	paid,	paid.
put,	put,	put.
Quit,	quit,*	quit.*
Read,	read,	read.
		ride,

† It is a common mistake to confound this Verb, which signifies *to place*, with the neuter Verb *to lie*; as, *Where did you lay last night*; instead of *Where did you lie*?

<i>To.</i>	<i>Preterite Tense, Partic. Preterite.</i>	
ride,	rode,	ridden.
ring,	rang,	rung.
rise,	rose,	risen.
rive,	rived,	riven.
run,	ran,	run.
Saw,	sawed,	sawn.
say,	said,	said.
see,	saw,	seen.
seek,	sought,	sought.
seethe,	seethed,	sodden.
sell,	sold,	sold.
send,	sent,	sent.
set,	set,	set.
shake,	shook,	shaken.
shave,	shaved,	shaven.*
shear,	sheared,	shorn.
shed,	shed,	shed.
shine,	shone,*	shone.*
shoe,	shod,	shod.
shoot,	shot,	shot.
show, shew,	showed, shewed,	shown* shewn.*
shrink,	shrank,	shrunken.
shut,	shut,	shut.
sing,	sang,	sung.
sink,	sunk,	sunk.
sit,	sat,	sat.
slay,	slew,	slain.
slide,	slided,	slidden.

Sink,



<i>To</i>	<i>Preterite Tense.</i>	<i>Partic. Preterite.</i>
slink,	slunk,	slunk.
sling,	slung,	slung.
slit,	slit,	slit.
smite,	smote,	smitten.
sow,	sowed,	sown.*
speak,	spoke, spake	spoken.
speed,	sped,	sped.
spin,	spun,	spun.
spit,	spat,	spitten.
split,	split,	split.
spread,	spread,	spread.
spring,	sprang, sprung,	sprung.
stand,	flood,	flood.
steal,	stole,	stolen.
stick,	stuck,	stuck.
sling,	slung,	slung.
slink,	stank,	stunk.
stride,	strode,	stridden.
strike,	struck,	stricken.
string,	strung,	strung.
strive,	strove,	striven.
strow,	strowed,	strown.
swear,	swore, sware,	sworn.
sweat,	sweat,	sweat.
swell,	swelled,	swollen.*
swim,	swam,	swum.
swing,	swung,	swung.
Take,	took,	taken.

teach,

<i>To</i>	<i>Preterite Tense.</i>	<i>Partic. Preterite.</i>
teach,	taught,	taught.
tear,	tore, tare,	torn.
tell,	told,	told.
think,	thought,	thought.
thrive,	throve,	thriven.
throw,	threw,	thrown.
thrust,	thrust,	thrust.
tread,	trode,	trodden.
Wax,	waxed,	waxen.*
wear,	wore,	worn.
weave,	wove,	woven.
weep,	wept,	wept.
wet,	wet,	wet.
win,	won,	won.
wind,	wound,	wound.
work,	wrought,*	wrought.*
wring,	wrung,*	wrung.
write,	wrote,	written.

### Inflection of an irregular Verb.

#### To go.

#### Indicative Mode, Preterite Tense.

Sing. <i>I went.</i>	Plur. <i>We went.</i>
<i>Thou wentest.</i>	<i>Ye went.</i>
<i>He went.</i>	<i>They went.</i>

#### Subjunctive

Subjunctive Mode, Preter. Tense.

Sing. <i>If I went,</i>	Plur. <i>If we went,</i>
<i>If thou went,</i>	<i>If ye went,</i>
<i>If he went.</i>	<i>If they went.</i>

Participles. Pres. *going*, Pret. *gone*.

In all other Modes and Tenses, the regular form is observed.

DEFECTIVE VERBS.

UGHT.

Present, and Preterite Tenses.

Sing. <i>I ought,</i>	Plur. <i>We ought,</i>
<i>Thou oughtest,</i>	<i>Ye ought,</i>
<i>He ought.</i>	<i>They ought.</i>

QUOTH.

*Quoth I, quoth he or she.*

WIST.

*I wist, he wist, we wist, ye wist, they wist.*

WOT.

*I wot, he wot, we wot, ye wot, they wot.*



## 44 A P P E N D I X.

### Remarks on some GRAMMATICAL FIGURES.

#### OF E L L I P S I S.

**E**LLIPSIS is the omission of one or more words which the construction requires to be supplied, for the sake of brevity and elegance. There are few compound sentences, which are not in some degree elliptical: Syntax therefore cannot be perfectly taught, or understood, without a particular attention to this figure. It will be an exercise of advantage to the scholar in many respects, to point out the various instances of Ellipsis that occur: For example:

1st. The *ellipsis* of the NOUN; as, *It is better to receive than to do injury.* i. e. *It is better to receive injury, than to do injury. When you come to St. Paul's, turn to the left.* i. e. *When you come to St. Paul's church, turn to the left hand.*

2dly. Of the Adjective; as, *much rain and snow;* i. e. *Much rain, and much snow.*

3dly. Of the RELATIVE; as, *the horse, you bought is lame;* i. e. *The horse, which you bought is lame.*

4thly. Of the VERB; as, *What am I, and from whence?* i. e. *What am I, and from whence am I? So said, so done;* i. e. *So it was said, so it was done.*

5thly.

5thly. Of the ARTICLE, ADVERB, CONJUNCTION, and PREPOSITION; as, *The bow and arrows are broken; i. e. The bow, and the arrows are broken. He speaks and writes well; i. e. He speaks well, and writes well. He is a very agreeable, worthy man; i. e. He is a very agreeable, and a very worthy man. I gave it to your brother and sister; i. e. I gave it to your brother, and to your sister. I desire, you will be more diligent; i. e. I desire, that you will be more diligent.*

*They compliment, they sit, they chat,  
Talk o'er the wars, reform the state,  
A thousand knotty points they clear,  
'Till supper and my wife appear. Prior.  
i. e. They compliment, and they sit, and they chat, &c.*

Lastly; Of a considerable part of a sentence; as, *Nature has given to animals, one time to act, another to rest; i. e. Nature has given to animals one time to act; Nature has given to animals another time to rest.*

## OF TRANSPOSITION.

**T**RANSPOSITION is the placing of words out of their natural order, for the sake of some superior beauty. It is seldom of advantage to invert the style, except in poetic language, and therefore the best prose writers

have the fewest instances of transposition. In poetry also this figure is to be condemned, if it endanger perspicuity, or add not to the beauty and harmony of the verse. The English language admits of considerable liberty in the arrangement of a word or clause denoting some circumstance, which may be variously placed without inconvenience, but is usually to be preferred at the beginning of a sentence. It would be difficult, and perhaps useless to lay down rules comprehending every allowable instance of transposition. The best instruction that can be given, is to attend to the practice of the most approved writers, and always to preserve perspicuity. It will be an useful exercise to the scholar to resolve a transposed sentence into its natural arrangement; as for instance, the beginning of Milton's *Paradise Lost*:

*Of Man's first disobedience, and the fruit  
Of that forbidden tree, whose mortal taste  
Brought death into the world, and all our woe,  
With loss of Eden, till one greater man  
Restore us, and regain the blissful seat,  
Sing heavenly muse.*

The natural order of the foregoing sentence is, *Heavenly muse, sing of man's first disobedience, and the fruit, &c.*

So



*So spake th' omnipotent, and with his words  
All seem'd well pleas'd; all seem'd, but were not  
all. Par. lost, b. 5.*

*i. e. So the omnipotent spake, and all seem'd  
well pleas'd with his words; all seem'd, but all  
were not.*

### Of the Transformation of Words.

**I**T sometimes happens from particular circumstances, that a word loses its common signification, and acquires the distinguishing property of another part of speech.

Thus for instance; *the Possessive Case of a Noun*, is equivalent to an *Adjective*; as, *man's life is short*; i. e. *human life is short*.

When *two Nouns* are compounded together, and joined with a hyphen, the first of them has usually the signification of an *Adjective*; as, *a bird-cage, an ale-house, a man-servant, a maid-servant*; and sometimes when the hyphen is omitted; as, *a gold ring, a London merchant, a China orange, the noon-tide hour, the mid-day sun*.

An *Adjective*, when its Substantive is understood, acquires the nature of a *Noun*; as, *The wise shall inherit glory. Who will shew us any good?*†

A

† *Adjectives* are sometimes very improperly used  
instead

## 48      A P P E N D I X.

A *Verb* in the *infinitive Mode*, has generally the signification of a *Noun*; as, *to err is human*; i. e. *error is human*.

A *Participle*, when it has no respect to time, becomes a meer *Adjective*; as, *a learned man, a spotted garment, a fishing rod, a pruning hook*.

A *Participle* is sometimes converted into a *Noun*; as, *Hunting is a healthful exercise. She is fond of singing and dancing*.

An *Adverb*, when it connects sentences, may be considered as a *Conjunction*; as, *He is angry at you, not at me. You are very careless, also very idle*.

Some *Adverbs* have the use and construction of *Pronouns*; as, *hereof, hereby, wherein, whereunto, &c.*

A *Conjunction*, when it ceases to connect sentences, is changed into an *Adverb*; as, *I think otherwise. He was then reading Cæsar's commentaries*.

A *Preposition* sometimes assumes the nature of the *Adverb*, sometimes of the *Conjunction*; as, *He went before, I followed after. Think, before you speak. After you have supped, you may walk if you please*.

### EXER-

instead of *Adverbs*; as, *a remarkable wise man; he acted agreeable to his promise: For, a remarkably wise man; he acted agreeably to his promise*.

EXERCISES of FALSE CONSTRUCTION.

*Examples under.*

Rule I. **I** Often goes a walking. Thou loves  
play. Thou forgets thyself. We  
was speaking of you. You was wrong.  
Children is apt to play. Does thou learn  
Grammar? Why prates thou? *Shakes.*

II. Poetry, painting and music is sister  
arts. Wisdom and Virtue is superior to  
every other endowment. Pope, Swift, and  
Addison was cotemporary. My brother and  
sister was in the country. Thou and he be-  
haves ill.

V. You have been playing *this* two hours.  
Give me *that* scissars.

VI. O thou my voice inspire,  
Who touch'd Isaiah's hallow'd lips with fire.  
*Pope.*

Thou great first cause least understood,  
Who all my sense confin'd,  
To know but this, that thou art good,  
And that myself am blind;  
Yet gave me in this dark estate

To see the good from ill, &c. *ditto.*

VII. Her and me are going home, Thee  
dost not tell truth. Him and her learn to  
sing. Them and us learn to dance. Them are  
very good apples.

VIII. He



VIII. He praised *I*. We esteem *thou*. I greatly blame *they*. I thank *ye*. We saw *ye*. I knew *ye*. *Shakesf.*

IX. It is not *me*. It was *her*. They said it was *him*. To that which once was *thee*. *Prior*. Here's none but *thee* and *me*. *Shakesf.*

XI. The man, *who* you met upon the road is my friend. There is no man, *who* I love so much. These are the men, *who* I saw yesterday. *Who* should I meet the other night, but my old friend? *Specl.*

XII. Q. *Who* did this? A. *Me*. Q. *Who* bid you? A. *Him*. *Who* are diligent? A. *Us*. Q. *Who* are idle? A. *Them*.

XIII. We have been reading *Popes* works. He admired the *soldiers* horse. The king of Great Britains army. On *eagles* wings.

And art thou then *Acastos* dear remains?

XVI. He was teaching *she* and *I*. You are angry at me for admonishing *ye*.

XVII. *Him* having finished his discourse, the assembly was dismissed, *us* being greatly pleased, *them* greatly displeased.

XVIII. With *who* do you live? *Who* do you live with? I live with *he*. Do you know, *who* you speak to? Do you know to *who* you speak?

XIX. I esteem your brother, than *who* I do not know a more worthy young man.  
Let

Let us honor our parents, than *who* none ought to be more dear to us.

XX. Neither riches nor honor, *or* knowledge can be compared with virtue. I am so full of business, *as* I cannot answer thee. *Shakes.* Neither in this world, *neither* in that to come. Can the fig-tree bear olive berries, *either* a vine figs? And the third part of the stars was smitten, *so as* the third part of heaven was darkened.†

XXII. I have *gave*. Thou hast *wrote*. He would not have *durst*. Where did you *lay* last night. When was this meadow *mowed*? The bells have been *rang* all night. The house was *shook* by the wind. I *begun* yesterday. Have you *began*. It was *began*. I have *chose*. *Milt.* You have *swam*. *Shakes.* I have *mistook*. *Do.* Finish what you have *began*. *Dryd.*

Rapt into future times the bard *begun*. *Pope.*

The sun has *rose*, and gone to bed. *Swift.*

The *tear* forgot, as soon as shed. *Grey.*

XXV. The English, and the French are near neighbours. *These* are islanders; *those* inhabit the continent.

Man is compounded of body and mind. *This* is common to him with the brutes; *that* is the image of God himself.

H

EXAM-

† Many of these examples are to be found in Lowth's excellent Grammar.

EXAMPLES of ENGLISH COMPOSITION,  
Chiefly selected from the most celebrated Authors.

A Contented mind, and a good conscience, will make a man happy in all conditions. Prosperity gains friends, and adversity tries them.

Complaisance renders a superior amiable, an equal agreeable, and an inferior acceptable.

Without a friend, the world is but a wilderness.

By others' faults, wise men correct their own.

Pitch upon that course of life, which is most pleasant, and custom will render it the most delightful.

Anger may glance into the breast of a wise man, but rests only in the bosom of fools.

He that is truly polite, knows how to contradict with respect, and to please without adulation; and is equally remote from an insipid complaisance, and low familiarity.

Honor thy father with thy whole heart, and forget not the sorrows of thy mother: How canst thou recompense them the things they have done for thee?

Truth is always consistent with itself, and needs nothing to help it out; whereas a lie  
is



is troublesome, and sets a man's invention on the rack, and one trick needs a great many more to make it good.

Many men have been capable of doing a wise thing, more a cunning thing, but very few a generous thing.

If gratitude is due from man to man, how much more from man to his creator? The supreme being does not only confer upon us those bounties, which proceed more immediately from his hand, but even those benefits, which are conveyed to us by others. Every blessing we enjoy, by what means soever it may be derived upon us, is the gift of him, who is the great author of good, and father of mercies.

When Socrates was told that his judges had sentenced him to death; And hath not nature (said he) passed the same sentence upon them?

He, who swears, tells us his bare word is not to be credited.

True modesty is ashamed of every thing that is criminal; false modesty of every thing, that is unfashionable.

Nothing can be honorable, which is not virtuous: Among the Romans, the entrance to the temple of honor always lay through the temple of virtue.

A man truly modest is as much so when alone, as in company, and as subject to a blush in his closet, as when the eyes of multitudes are upon him.

The envious man is in pain, upon all occasions which ought to give him pleasure. The relish of his life is inverted, and the objects which administer the highest satisfaction to those who are exempt from this passion, give the quickest pangs to those who are subject to it. All the perfections of their fellow-creatures are odious: Youth, beauty, valour and wisdom, are provocations of their displeasure. But if we consider the envious man in delight, it is like reading the feat of a giant in romance; the magnificence of his house consists in the many limbs of men, whom he has slain.

Zealous men are ever displaying to you the strength of their belief, while judicious men are shewing you the grounds of it.

Avarice is the most opposite of all characters to that of God Almighty; whose alone it is to give, and not receive.

Harmony of period, and melody of stile, have greater weight than is generally imagined in the judgment, we pass upon writing and writers. As a proof of this, let us reflect, what texts of scripture, what lines in poetry,

or

or what periods, we most remember, and quote, either in verse or prose, and we shall find them to be only musical ones.

*Whoever thinks a faultless piece to see,  
Thinks what ne'er was, nor is, nor e'er shall be.  
In ev'ry work regard the writer's end,  
Since none can compass more than they intend.  
And if the means be just, the conduct true,  
Applause, in spite of trivial faults, is due.*

Pope, Ess. on Crit.

*A little learning is a dangerous thing;  
Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian Spring:  
There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,  
And drinking largely sobers us again.* Ditto.

*Now shield with shield, helmet with helmet clos'd,  
To armour armour, lance to lance oppos'd,  
Host against host, with shadowy squadrons drew,  
The sounding darts in iron tempests flew,  
Victors and vanquish'd join promiscuous cries,  
And shrilling shouts and dying groans arise;  
With streaming blood, the slippery fields are dy'd,  
And slaughter'd heroes swell the dreadful tide.*

Pope's Homer.

---

*Now storming fury rose,  
And clamour, such as heard in heav'n till now  
Was never, arms on armour clashing bray'd  
Horrible discord, and the madding wheels*

*Of*



*Of brazen chariots rag'd; dire was the noise  
 Of conflict; over-head the dismal hiss  
 Of fiery darts in flaming volleys flew,  
 And flying, vaulted either host with fire.  
 So under fiery cope together rush'd  
 Both battles main, with furious assault  
 And inextinguishable rage; all heaven  
 Resounded, and had earth been there, all earth  
 Had to her centre shook. Par. Lost.*

### EPITAPH on Mr. GAY.

*Of manners gentle, of affections mild;  
 In wit a man; simplicity a child:  
 With native humour temp'ring virtuous rage,  
 Form'd to delight at once, and lash the age:  
 Above temptation in a low estate,  
 And uncorrupted ev'n among the great:  
 A safe companion, and an easy friend,  
 Unblam'd through life, lamented in thy end.  
 These are thy honours! not that here thy bust  
 Is mix'd with heroes, or with kings thy dust;  
 But that the worthy and the good shall say,  
 Striking their pensive bosoms—Here lies GAY.*

### ELEGY to the Memory of an unfortunate LADY, v. 47.

*What can alone (e'er injur'd shade!)  
 Thy fate unpity'd, and thy rites unpaid?*

No friend's complaint, no kind domestic tear  
Pleas'd thy pale ghost, or grac'd thy mournful bier;  
By foreign hands thy dying eyes were clos'd,  
By foreign hands thy decent limbs compos'd,  
By foreign hands thy humble grave adorn'd,  
By strangers honor'd, and by strangers mourn'd!  
What tho' no friends in sable weeds appear,  
Grieve for an hour, perhaps, then mourn a year,  
And bear about the mockery of woe  
To midnight dances, and the public show?  
What tho' no weeping loves thy ashes grace,  
Nor polish'd marble emulate thy face?  
What tho' no sacred earth allow thee room,  
Nor hallow'd dirge be mutter'd o'er thy tomb?  
Yet shall thy grave with rising flow'rs be dress'd,  
And the green turf lie lightly on thy breast:  
There shall the morn her earliest tears bestow,  
There the first roses of the year shall blow;  
While angels with their silver wings o'ershade  
The ground now sacred by thy relics made.

So peaceful rests without a stone a name,  
What once had beauty, titles, wealth and fame.  
How lov'd, how honor'd once, avails thee not,  
To whom related, or by whom begot;  
A heap of dust alone remains of thee,  
'Tis all thou art, and all the proud shall be!

Poets themselves must fall like those they sung,  
Deaf the prais'd ear, and mute the tuneful tongue.

Ev'n

*Ev'n he whose soul now melts in mournful lays,  
 Shall shortly want the gen'rous tear he pays;  
 Then from his closing eyes thy form shall part,  
 And the last pang shall tear thee from his heart,  
 Life's idle business at one gasp be o'er,  
 The muse forgot, and thou belov'd no more!*

Pope.

*Presumptuous man! the reason would'st thou find,  
 Why form'd so weak, so little, and so blind?  
 First if thou canst, the harder reason guess,  
 Why form'd no weaker, blinder, and no less?  
 Ask of thy mother earth, why oaks are made  
 Taller or stronger than the weeds they shade?  
 Or ask of yonder argent fields above,  
 Why Jove's satellites are less than Jove?*

Ditto.



F I N I S.



*The following blank pages in this copy have been  
inserted to allow for a better binding.*























































